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# The Romulus News

OCTOBER 22, 2004 – NOVEMBER 4, 2004 "the little paper" VOLUME 18 NUMBER 7

## Timely Tidbits ...

### Vote November 2!

Linda Choate, Romulus City Clerk, and Rendell Wooden, elections clerk, would like to remind all registered voters that the General Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 2. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information, call the Clerk's Office: 734-942-7540.

### Kids' Holiday Craft Programs at Library

Gurpreet Samra, youth librarian, has announced that the Romulus Public Library will host the following holiday craft programs for elementary-age children:

- Halloween (10:30 a.m. Saturday, October 30),
- Thanksgiving (10:30 a.m. Saturday, November 13), and
- Christmas Tree Trim (10:30 a.m. Saturday, December 4).

Although there is no charge to participate, space is limited, so preregistrations will be accepted on a first-come/first-served basis.

For more information, or to register, call 734-942-7589.

### Three-ring Reading Club Challenges Kids

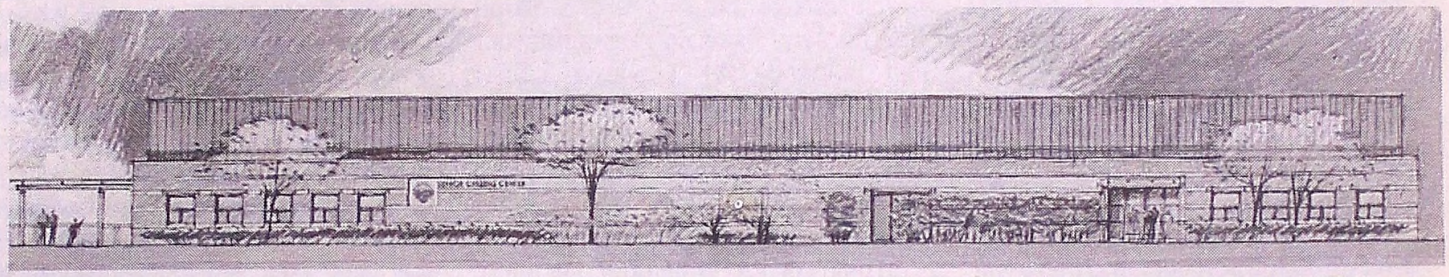
Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey is partnering with public libraries throughout metro Detroit to help encourage children to hit the books through the Three-ring Reading Club.

"The incentive-based program makes reading exciting, fun, and rewarding for kids 12 and under," said Gurpreet Samra, youth librarian for the Romulus Public Library.

According to Samra, children in the club are challenged to read four books before November 5. With each book they complete, they are rewarded with a small prize courtesy of the library and the circus. Reading all four books earns kids a voucher for a free ticket to the November 10 or 11 performance of The Greatest Show on Earth at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

For more information about the club, call 734-942-7589. ❑

# City To Go Forward on New Senior Center



**This artist's rendering of the proposed new senior-citizens' center shows the north (front) elevation. The new facility will be constructed next to the current facility, which will be torn down once the new building is complete.**

*By Kristi Stephens*

Concluding weeks of heated controversy over a proposal for a new senior-citizens' center, the Romulus City Council unanimously approved the issuance of bonds to fund the project, and chose a construction management firm to oversee it.

The votes were taken at the Council's October 11 meeting after considerable discussion among Council members, Mayor Alan R. Lambert, Economic Development director Tim Keyes, and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) director Maria Lambert.

Mayor Lambert began the discussion by denying rumors that approval of the project would lead to a property-tax increase for residents. The City's plan, instead, is to commit the next 10 years of its federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to the project – a total of about $2.4 million – as well as about $1 million in DDA monies.

"You're all aware that we're trying to build our senior citizens a senior center, and we've found a way to fund it without raising taxes," he explained. "If a time comes when you can get such a great program for such great people, and you can do it for free, it's a happy day for everyone."

Lambert then addressed the referendum petitions that were recently circulated throughout the City in an attempt to force a public vote on the issuance of bonds for the new senior center.

"Unfortunately, you have people passing out petitions around town, deceiving people, telling them that their tax dollars are going to be raised, but I would not do anything to raise taxes in this community. The senior center is going to be free."

According to Lambert, who believes that at least some of the petitions were circulated illegally, there may be serious consequences for those involved.

"It says on the bottom of these petitions, 'A circulator knowingly making a false statement in the above certificate, a person not a circulator who signs as a circulator, or a person who signs a name other than his or her own as a circulator, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

Lambert continued, "We've talked to several people who signed these petitions, and they're telling me [and other people] that the person who signed as a circulator was not the one who brought the petition to their home. So, not only are they deceiving people by telling them that it's going to raise their taxes, they're breaking the law by doing what they're doing.

"There *will* be an investigation on this; we *are* looking into it," he added.

Lambert concluded by saying he supports the referendum process, but doesn't think it is necessary in this case.

"The rights of the people are very, very important to me," he stated, "[but] we're not raising anybody's taxes."

Councilman LeRoy Burcroff was among those who concurred with the mayor.

"I respect the petition process; it's the right of the citizens to use it," he said. "[However] they do have the obligation to not make false statements.

"I personally talked to several different people who signed these petitions, and they not only didn't have a good understanding about the project, but they were told some things that, in my opinion, were not true. ... After I had conversation with them, and explained it to them, they were a little bit angry; they felt that they were duped in a way into signing some of these petitions.

*continued on page 6*

# 54 from Romulus High School's Class of 2004 Earn $2,500 MEAP Scholarships

According to final results* recently released by the Michigan Department of Education, 54 students from Romulus High School's Class of 2004 qualified for a combined $135,000 in Michigan Merit Scholarships. To be eligible, the students had to score in "Level I" (exceeds state standards) or "Level II" (meets state standards) on the reading, writing, science, and mathematics exams that were administered during their junior and senior years.

The total of 54 awardees is the district's second highest in the five-year history of the scholarship program.

The $2,500-scholarship winners from Romulus High School's Class of 2004 are: Aamer Ahmad, Darnell Anderson, Deborah Anderson, Audrey Baskin, Natalie Blake, Kenneth Booker, Carla Broom, Joshua Brown, Cassie Caldwell, Kristina Camilleri, Jerry Collie Jr., Elliot Craig, Rhiannon Crawford, James Davis, Richard Davis, Jenessa Deshazor, Jessica Deverich, Thomas Drayton, Carissa Drobil, LaToya Flint, Lauren Fox, Jessica Frost, Randall Frye, Toni Gibson, Sabrina Gomes, Joseph Goroni, Christian Hadden, Terry Harper, Justin Heins, Sarah Herbert, Roy Hollis Jr., Shaenna Kettlewell, Aaron King, Kevin Kucharski, Sarah Lindroth, Victoria Lucaj, Angela Lukas, Michael Mancine, Patrick McCollum, Joseph Mitchell, Hanya Ombima, LaJoya Orr, Kristina Rafalski, Tiffiney Ramsay, David Rogala, Britany Sawdy, Sara Schulz, Ricky Staten, Ryan Tackett, Shekiyah Taylor, Rebecca Thornton, Jonathon Wilkerson, DeRhonda Williams-Kennedy, and Marissa Wilson.

Congratulations to all.

**Final results were not released by the MDE until the scores from last May's MEAP tests were finalized.* ❑

# Letters to the Editor

*Editor's note: All letters to the editor MUST contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request only in exceptional cases where, in our opinion, there is a legitimate reason to do so.*

*The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.*

*Since this is our last issue before the November 2 election, and there will be no further opportunity for response to the letters below, we feel it only fair to urge voters interested in hearing judicial candidate Robert Coutts's point of view to contact him at his campaign headquarters: 734-422-0000.*

## Judicial Races Should Be Above "Dirty Politics"

Dear Editor:

I thought that judicial races were supposed to be above dirty politics, but this year's race at the 34th District Court seems to be "anything goes" for the candidate that is opposing Judge Brian A. Oakley.

Not only has Mr. Robert Coutts ignored the rules set by the communities regarding the time allotted for displaying political signs, but he is now violating Federal law by stuffing his literature into mailboxes. He doesn't seem to know where to draw the line. His campaign people can be seen driving through the communities with Coutts signs all over their vehicles, stuffing mailboxes along the way. Voters need to remember this on November 2.

How can someone who doesn't follow our laws expect us to elect him – and then enforce them?

Kenneth Mientkiewicz
Romulus

## Former City Ordinance Director Questions Coutts

Dear Editor:

I have a number of questions for Robert Coutts, candidate for 34th District Court Judge.

My first question: Do you think you could render a just decision on any ordinance violation, since you have been the biggest sign ordinance violator from the start of the campaign? You started putting signs up way before the legal date to start. You put signs on private property where you did not have the property owner's permission to do so. Our ordinance states that you *must* have the property owner's permission to put a sign on it.

Also, our ordinance says that you cannot post any sign on a public right-of-way. That ordinance must not mean anything to you, since you have shown the citizens of the 34th District Court area that you have no respect for our sign ordinance. As of today (October 17, 2004), you have a lot of signs on public-right-of-way property in Romulus, New Boston, Sumpter, Belleville, and Van Buren. And one thing I *don't* want to hear is that your workers put them there. (You didn't do it.) Remember one thing: You are responsible for your signs.

What puzzles me, too, is if you want this job as judge so badly, why don't you respect the law now? I also wonder what would happen (if you got lucky and got elected) if an ordinance violation was assigned to your court. Would you send it to one of the other two judges to hear, since there is no way you could render a just decision on any ordinance violations?

I also thought that the judge position was a nonpartisan job, but you sure made a sham out of that by going door to door, asking citizens if you could put a "Kerry and Edwards" sign in their yard. If they said yes, you would tell the people that you were endorsed by them and then ask if you could put one of your own signs in with theirs; but if anyone asked you for a "Kerry/Edwards" sign without your sign, you would tell them no, it's a package deal – your sign with the "Kerry/Edwards" sign, or nothing.

My last question: There is a rumor that you are a great friend to the Canadian truck drivers that haul Canadian trash into the USA. If they happen to get a ticket here in the USA, you represent most of them. Also, there is a rumor that you own three trucks that haul Canadian trash into the USA. Is there any truth to these rumors?

Hulen Yates
former Ordinance Department
director for the City of Romulus

## Mayor Lambert Responds to Letter from Witzgall

Dear Editor:

This is in response to the letter from Dolores Witzgall, published in your October 8 issue. Ms. Witzgall contends that I never returned her phone call. I was told about Ms. Witzgall's phone call while I was at the hospital during a family emergency, and assigned Kathleen Trent, the City's cable liaison, to call her back the very same day. I was out of the office for two days (not three), and in constant phone contact with my staff during that time.

For the record, it was my future stepson who was badly hurt on the job, not my son-in-law. His injuries were life-threatening at that time. I was, however, communicating with my staff while at University of Michigan Hospital, and made sure that Ms. Witzgall's phone call was returned by our cable liaison, who regularly handles cable matters. In fact, Ms. Trent speaks with Ms. Witzgall on a near-daily basis, and keeps me updated regarding cable issues. The call was assigned to the appropriate person.

The residents of Romulus know that I am aware of their concerns and *do* return phone calls. The Mayor's Office receives hundreds of phone calls per week. In the circumstances where I am unable to speak personally with callers, I have full confidence in assigning members of the City administration to respond to the residents' concerns, which I did in this case. My administration takes great pride in its teamwork and effectiveness.

Alan R. Lambert, Mayor
City of Romulus

## Politics Interfering with Rights of the People?

To the citizens of Romulus:

Is it politics, or have some people forgotten that our federal, state, and local laws grant citizens the right to petition the government?

I have always been extremely vocal and, on occasion, I have found it necessary to defend the Constitutional rights of both myself and others. As an elected official, I have taken an oath to uphold those rights. And whether the subject in question is a bond issue or gambling, all citizens have the right to freely address their government.

Was it really necessary to give a public scolding to those electors of our community who chose to exercise their rights by circulating a petition for referendum on the City's proposed bond issue for a new senior citizens center? Accusing the circulators of knowingly making false statements, and threatening them with investigation/prosecution, was even more disturbing.

*continued on page 3*


## The Romulus News

P.O. Box 74038 • Romulus, MI 48174-0038
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## Politics Interfering with Citizens' Rights?

*continued from page 2*

Please reference the public notice published in the August 19, 2004 issue of *The Romulus Roman*. It states, "THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS shall be payable primarily from anticipated tax increment revenues derived within the DDA [Downtown Development Authority] and the bonds shall also pledge the limited tax full faith and credit of the City of Romulus." Did the public notice disclose the true primary source of payment, Community Development Block Grants (CDBGs)? Absolutely not!

Perhaps we should investigate and pursue a much more informative, more accurate, and more factual public notice so that all electors/taxpayers would have known exactly how the debt would be repaid. There is no denying that hard economic times exist. Citizens are carefully watching their dollars and debt at home – and are, in turn, expecting their elected officials to do the same. There is no question that relying on state and federal funding brings the possibility of unforeseen uncertainties. Will Congress continue to appropriate the funds that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) needs to support the CDBG program? Cuts in funding always seem to affect the ones that need the most: senior and youth programs. Only time will tell.

Again, I hardly think that it makes sense to spend tax dollars on investigating electors/circulators of petitions that weren't validated by the Clerk's Office, because they didn't contain the required number of signatures (10% of the City's total number of electors) as established by State statute. (Under the Romulus City Charter, however, there would have been an ample number of signatures: 6% of the total number of electors who voted in the City's last general/mayoral election). I question the threat of a full-scale investigation.

Have we forgotten when each of us has circulated petitions for one elective office or another, leaving them unattended on store front counters? (Petitions are supposed to be signed in the circulator's presence.) Do we remember asking citizens to show us their voter registration cards before allowing them to sign? (Only registered electors of the City are eligible to sign petitions.) The fact is, the only way a circulator knows for sure that the signer is qualified is to check his/her voter registration card. Let's be honest, not petty!

Perhaps we should have investigated a certain businessman who felt compelled to re-register during several past local elections, using his place of business as his residence to qualify him to vote in Romulus elections. That incident was turned over to the City Clerk's Office.

Or, maybe we should direct our attention to the real crimes – like the vandalization of our cemetery and the break-ins in our neighborhoods (Halecreek, Wick, and Tyler Road areas) – and focus on protecting citizens and their property from the *true* criminals who penetrate our community.

I, for one, will continue to respect and uphold the Constitutional rights of those who choose to exercise their rights to petition our government.

Sincerely,
Debbie Romak, Councilwoman
City of Romulus ❑


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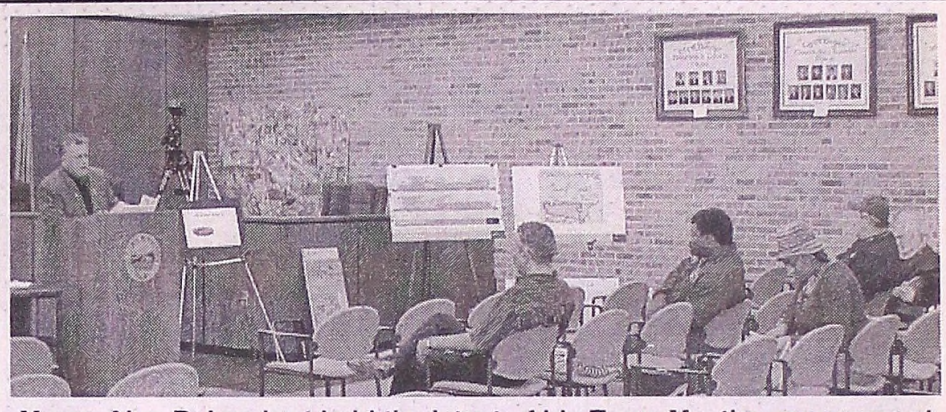

**Mayor Alan R. Lambert held the latest of his Town Meeting programs at Romulus City Hall on October 13, when he met with residents of The Farms subdivision. Lambert says that the meetings give residents an opportunity to ask questions about City programs, projects, and services.**

**Romulus City Councilman Bill Wadsworth (third from left) was happy to accept a $500 check on behalf of the Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter. The funds – representing the net proceeds from the Romulus Pumpkin Festival Car Show, sponsored by Romulus Auto Parts – were presented by (from left) Doug O'Leary (Auto Parts owner) and Car Show Committee members Sherri Deline, Dave Thiede, and Sue Thiede.**

**Shelly and David Gibb, owners of the Whistle Stop Diner (located on Goddard Road in downtown Romulus), went above and beyond the call of duty last week when they served free hot coffee to nearly 200 chilly people waiting outside Sav-On Drugs to get flu shots. The couple is pictured here in front of the mural that local artist Regina Plank painted in the restaurant's newly opened banquet area.**

# Scott Lange Returns from Iraq

**Sgt. Scott Lange of the U.S. Marine Corps received a warm welcome home when he returned from Iraq last week.**

U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant Scott Lange, who recently returned from Iraq after seven months of service, received an enthusiastic welcome home from family members and friends during a party held in his honor on Saturday, October 16, 2004.

Lange – son of Judy Lange of Romulus and Raymond Lange Sr. of Texas, and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Lange Sr. of Van Buren Township – lived and attended elementary school in Van Buren in his younger years, and graduated from Romulus High School in 1995. He is a member of Belleville's St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Sergeant Lange, who is currently stationed in 29 Palms, California, is the father of two children: Mariah and Scott Lange Jr. ❑


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- Van Buren Eagles #3996
- Willow Run Yankee Air Force
- St. Anthony's Parish - Men's Club
- A Member of the Michigan Bar Assoc. for 14 years, Trial Lawyer for all of these years.

✓ "The non-partisan candidates for judge are at the end of your ballot. Your ballot is not completed until you vote for ROBERT COUTTS for 34th District Judge On November 2nd"

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Robert P. Coutts for District Court Judge-P.O. Box 767, Belleville, MI 48112-0767 (734) 422-0000

# DON'T VOTE FOR BUSH OR KERRY
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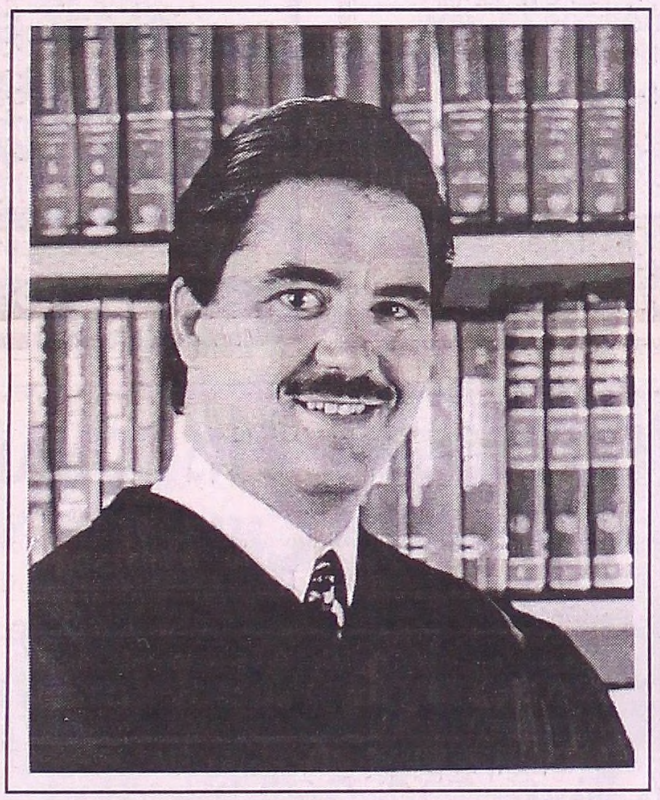
Continue to the Non-Partisan portion of your ballot and vote to Re-Elect

# Judge Brian A. Oakley



Judge Oakley has been a fair, involved, and approachable Judge since January, 1999.
He cares about kids and the community, ***and he listens!***

**Vote November 2, 2004**
to keep
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on the bench.

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## RMS Honors Students of the Month

Romulus Board of Education president Cheryle Buckley (back, left) congratulated Romulus Middle Schools' recent Student of the Month honorees, including: (from left) front – Brooke Tanner, Raheem Brown, David Plank, Don Davis, Tierra Garrison, Daniel Lucaj, and Deandry Buckley; back – Kevin Brown, Daijah Street, Meriah Chapman, Sha'Quita Waters, Melissa Groce, Sarah James, and Levi Adams.


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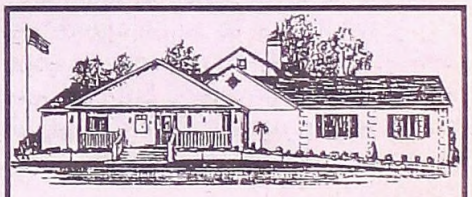

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## RHS Lady Eagles Seek Championship

Romulus High School's girls' basketball team is off to a fine start of 11–2 overall and 5–0 in the Mega League's White Division. Under the leadership of head coach Rhonda Henry (left) and assistant coach Kandice Finley (right), the team is contending for a third consecutive championship. The Lady Eagles include: (from left) front – Janiece Armstrong, Landria Buckley, Kate Appel, Amanda Collins, and Chelsea Earby; back – Kenise Thompson, Jasmine Charles, Jasmine Brown, Ashley Sibby, Paris Hawkins, Candice Lawrence, Erika Wasson, and Keyaura Hawkins.

## Senior Center Project To Move Forward

*continued from page 1*

And some volunteered information about some of the people who circulated the petitions, saying that they were not the people they actually talked to or that legally signed this document.

"This was not a good approach to take," he added. "If we do have a legitimate issue or we want to have a referendum, I respect that, but we also have to respect the fact that there's a process, a legal process, for doing it, and we all have to adhere to the law."

Councilman Charles Miller, who said that he would not get into whether the petitions were correctly circulated, focused instead on his upcoming vote regarding the proposed senior center.

"The mayor has continued to say that this is not going to cost the City anything," said Miller. "At this point, if he is confident, Mr. Keyes is confident, [and] this administration is confident that it's not going to cost anything, I'm going to move forward and vote for it.

"I want you to understand," he added, "that I have some concerns about the manner of payment, but I've been given their word that it's going to be paid [without additional cost to the City's taxpayers]."

Councilman Bill Crova assured both Miller and the residents of Romulus that they need not fear a tax hike to pay for the new senior center.

"We are limited by the Charter of the City of Romulus in reference to the number of mills that can be collected by the City, and it's also capped by the Headlee Amendment," Crova explained. "There's *no way* that the City can go ahead and increase taxes.

"I know that a number of people that I've spoken with that signed this petition were led to believe that the bond issue could result in an increase in their taxes," he added. "That is *not* the case. The only way a tax increase could happen is through a vote of the people."

Crova went on to discuss why he supports the construction of a new senior center.

"I was a strong advocate of the idea of building a new facility rather than trying to renovate the old facility. ... Originally, the cost of renovating the old building and bringing it up to newer standards was estimated to be about $1.8 million, [but] we can build a new building for approximately $2.2 million.

"I'm in total support of constructing the new building ... and then knocking down the old building and having a nice, first-class facility in Romulus. With regard to facilities, Romulus has been behind other communities for some years, and I personally believe that this is our opportunity to catch up."

Other reassurances came from Council Chairman Randy Gear, who spoke directly to the senior citizens present in the audience that evening.

"We would not do *anything* to try to affect the community financially or go deeper into your pockets," he stated. "[But] we do want a new facility because you have a right to one; you deserve to have a newer place. ... The building that you have now was a good place for its time, but we should move ahead now.

"People have a tendency to fight so hard against change, yet change is inevitable," Gear continued. "But, when you *do* create change, and you create a new vision for people, they should be able to share in that; they should be able to see it. ... We have put together something very nice for you, and we want you to help us see that vision through."

Councilman Bill Wadsworth also sees the project as a change for the good.

"In my 22 years as a councilman, this is the first time that we've ever had a project where we can get federal, county, and local funds. This is the biggest thing that's taken place in this town in the past 22 years, and it's a win-win situation for all of us.

"This isn't a tax increase of any type," he asserted. "It's good for you folks out there, and I'm totally in support of it."

Among the last to speak was Linda Norman, coordinator of senior-citizens' programs for the City of Romulus. She strongly urged the Council to support the proposed new facility.

"Our senior center serves more than just the seniors; it serves their families," she explained. "It gives them peace of mind that their loved ones will be in a healthy and safe environment."

Norman also reminded Council members that they need to address the community's needs for both today *and* tomorrow.

"You all will be senior citizens some day," she stated. "You all will be looking for programs and services and a facility for recreation.

"It's time for us to do something for our own future as well as the current senior citizens' present."

Before the final vote, both Economic Development director Keyes and DDA director Lambert provided Council with some of the project's specifications.

According to Keyes, the new facility will be approximately 15,400 square feet in area – an increase of about 2,500 square feet over the current building. Architects who planned the single-story brick structure did their best to create a facade that will blend seamlessly into the existing downtown neighborhood.

Facilities will include a "living room," library, game room, art/craft room, and multipurpose rooms, as well as office space for administrative needs.

The building will also be used by the Department of Parks and Recreation until a new recreation center can be constructed. ❑


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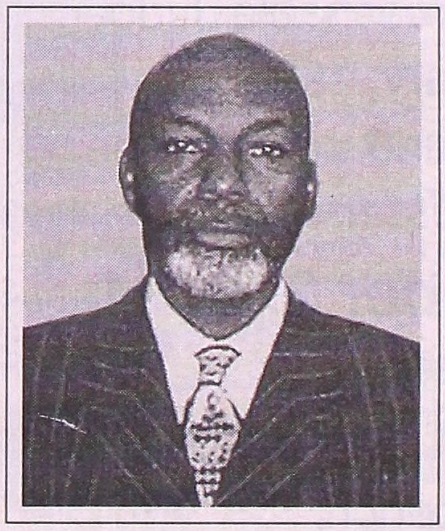

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# Local School Stresses Respect

**Romulus Elementary School principal Lynne Mossoian (back) used a slide-show to illustrate her 10 major goals for the school year for students at each grade level. Among the sixth-graders who listened intently were (from left) Andrea Schiffer, Tamra Reynolds, Cali Burks, and Jasmine Kosmalski.**

Lynne Mossoian, principal of Romulus Elementary School, has initiated a program designed to stress the importance of respect among students. The school staff will devote time and lessons to teach the meaning of respect throughout the school year.

"Our school theme is 'Respect yourself, others, and our school,'" said Mossoian. "We believe that children will become more successful students and citizens when they learn how to respect themselves and others."

Principal Mossoian began the year by hosting grade-level meetings, where she discussed her position on her 10 major goals for the school year. During these meetings, she made it very clear to students what their teachers will do if they violate her rules, and what type of action she will take if they are sent to the office.

"Her presentation was really outstanding, and established high expectations for everyone," said Dick Kruse, district spokesperson. "Romulus Elementary students know what is required of them, and they also know that there will be 'no negotiations' on principal Mossoian's 10 goals."

An all-school assembly introduced "Dare to Care," the second phase of Mossoian's program. Each student and staff member received a "Dare to Care" bracelet to be worn throughout the school year as a reminder of the school's motto.

Initial lessons have included:

- respect for self (do only those things that will help you to achieve a successful and healthy future),
- respect for others (treat other students and teachers with courtesy, fairness, and truthfulness), and
- respect for school property (take care of your own things and those that are shared by everyone).

Last year, RES surpassed the state averages on all six portions of the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) tests. Mossoian is again looking forward to achieving high academic goals for the 2004–2005 school year. ❑

**During a recent school assembly, Mossoian (left) and physical-education teacher Bill Baum (right) introduced "Dare to Care" – the second phase of the school's new program – to students like (from left) Tyler Anderson, Ashley Cribbs, and Tazonda Gibbs.**

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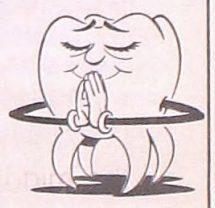

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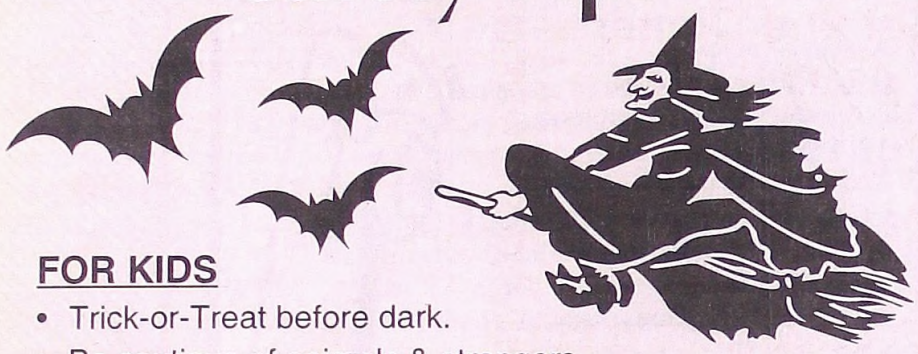
# HALLOWEEN Safety Tips



**FOR KIDS**

- Trick-or-Treat before dark.
- Be cautious of animals & strangers.
- Carry a flashlight so you can see & be seen easily.
- Visit homes that you know & that have the porch light on.
- A face mask may obstruct your vision; use makeup instead.
- Accept your treats at the door & never go into a stranger's house.
- Wear a costume that makes it easy for you to walk, see, & be seen.
- Plan your Trick-or-Treat route ahead of time. Pick streets that are well lit.
- Trick-or-Treat with a parent, older brother, sister, or friends. Never travel alone.
- Don't hide or cross the street between parked cars or in the middle of the block.
- Walk, slither, & sneak on sidewalks; if there is no sidewalk,walk facing traffic.
- Keep away from open fires & candles. (Keep in mind that costumes can be extremely flammable.)
- Have a grown-up inspect your treats before eating. Don't eat candy if the package is open.
- Look LEFT, RIGHT, then LEFT AGAIN before crossing the street to check for cars, trucks, & low-flying brooms. Cross *only* at corners.
- Wear light-colored or reflective-type clothing so you are more visible. (Remember to put reflective tape on bikes, skateboards, & brooms, too!)

**FOR PARENTS**

- Your child should know his/her phone number & address.
- Dress children in shoes that fit. Large-size shoes make it easier to trip & fall.
- Limit the use of "weapons" as part of the costume. If you allow a weapon, be sure it is soft & flexible.
- When you inspect the treats, be sure they have not been tampered with & are safely sealed. Be careful with fruit, as punctures are easily missed.

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# Lansing Update

## Prescription Drug Discount Card Offered

*By Hoon-Yung Hopgood, State Representative for the 22nd District*

People seeking to learn more about Governor Jennifer Granholm's new prescription drug card program are invited to use my office (517-373-0852) as an information resource.

The Michigan Prescription Drug Discount Card – or MI-RX Card – will allow as many as 200,000 senior citizens and working people with no insurance to cut the cost of their prescription drug bills. Under this new program, all Michigan residents currently without prescription drug coverage can apply for enrollment and receive a program identification card, which members could then use to save as much as 20% on prescription drugs at over 2,300 pharmacies in Michigan, including all major chains and some mail-order pharmacies. Residents who are either at or below the state's median income level are eligible for the program.

Reducing health-care costs for citizens, employers, and health-care providers is vital to Michigan's economic future. For instance, in a *Detroit News* article about the automotive industry last month, the cost of providing health care to employees was listed as the single greatest threat to the Big Three's viability. The article went on to say that automakers are pushing for major health-care reforms, including lowering the cost of prescription drugs.

Currently, at least 11 counties are engaged in some form of a countrywide prescription drug program. The state will continue to work with manufacturers, pharmacists, local government entities, and health-care providers to assure that the MI-RX program is compatible with other discount card programs.

Families in our community without insurance will benefit from this new discount drug card. It will increase their access to vital prescription drugs at a lower cost. I wholeheartedly support this program, and look forward to working with the Governor to improve the health and welfare of our community.

**Water Diversion**

The House approved House Joint Resolution CC, which would place on the November 2006 ballot an amendment to the state constitution declaring that the waters of the Great Lakes shall not be diverted out of the drainage basin for the Great Lakes. However, House Republicans blocked attempts to discuss efforts at enacting a Water Legacy Act, making this particular resolution seem nothing more than an election-year gimmick. I will continue to work with my colleagues on the Water Legacy Act to ensure that Michigan has quality laws protecting our Great Lakes from diversion and other hazards.

**Truck Lengths**

House Bill 4358 will allow truck lengths to be increased. Under current law, trucks can be up to 59 feet; this bill would extend that to 65 feet. I, along with many of my out-Wayne County colleagues, oppose this bill. Many times, the trucks traveling in Michigan continue to do far greater damage to state roads than what they contribute to their repair. Unfortunately, the bill was passed by a vote of 68–33. It is now before the Senate for its consideration.

**Identity Theft**

A number of bills aimed at creating an Identity Theft Protection Act to strengthen citizens' rights and law-enforcement efforts to combat identity theft were passed earlier this month. Under the bills, the scope of what constitutes identity theft would be expanded to include actions that lead up to the act of identity theft itself. They also create state regulations on the use of Social Security and credit card numbers. ❑

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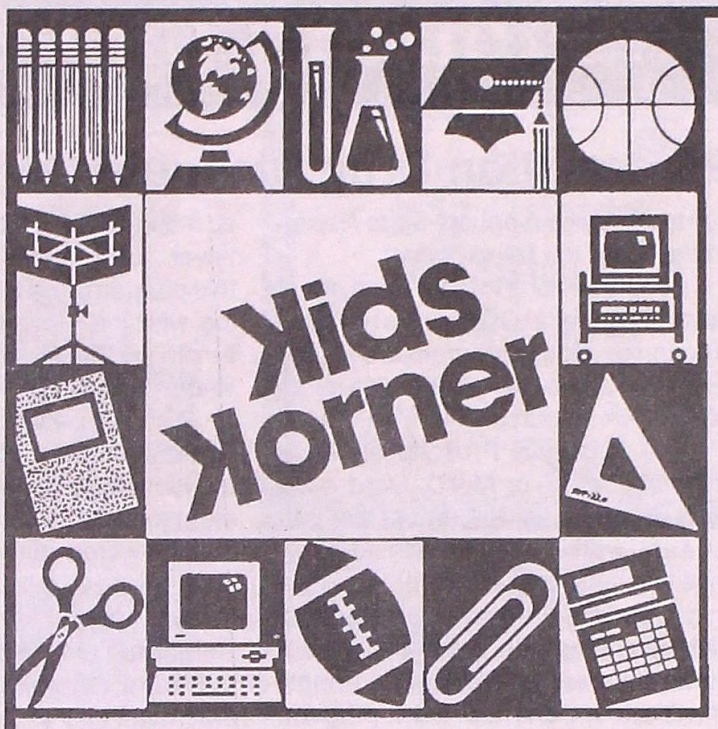
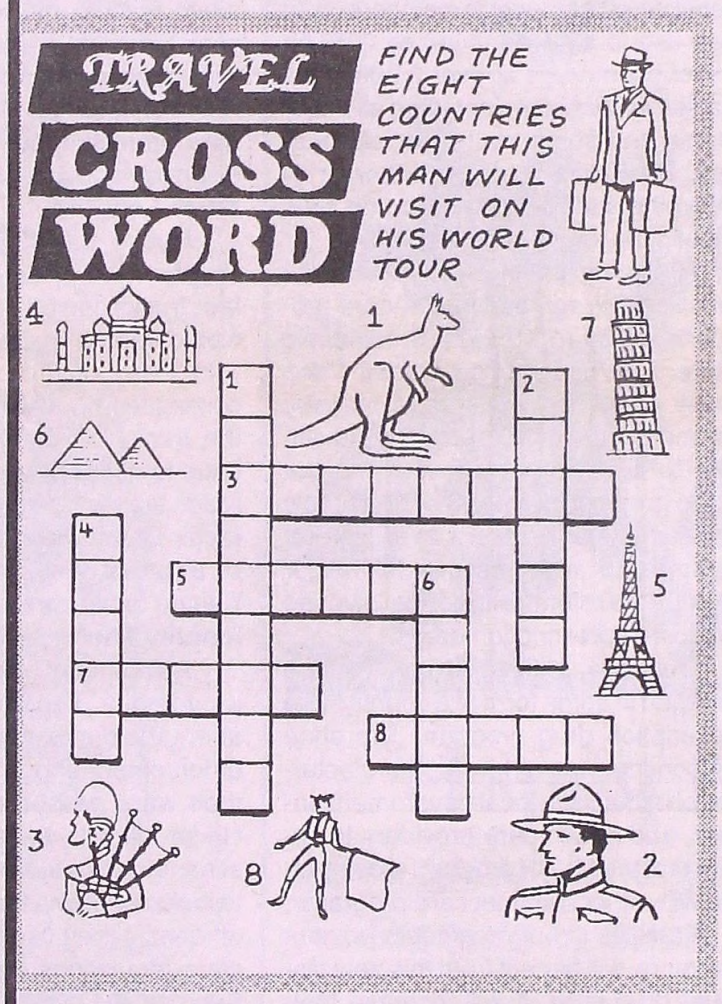



# Halloween Scramble

Unscramble the letters and discover a word connected with Halloween.

1. A shadow or spirit.
   O T G S H
2. A mischievous elf or gremlin.
   O N I G L B
3. The art of causing illusions.
   A C I M G
4. A large kettle or boiler.
   A L D O U R C N
5. A domesticated carnivore.
   A T C
6. A woman who practices magic.
   T I W C H
7. An implement for sweeping.
   B O R M O
8. A reddish-yellow citrus fruit.
   E R G O N A
9. Any action supposed to have magical power.
   A M H R C
10. A day or time of religious or other celebration.
    E I V F L T A S

## Answers to Halloween Scramble

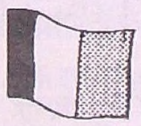
1. Ghost 2. Goblin 3. Magic 4. Cauldron 5. Cat. 6. Witch 7. Broom 8. Orange 9. Charm 10. Festival

## Famous October Birthdays

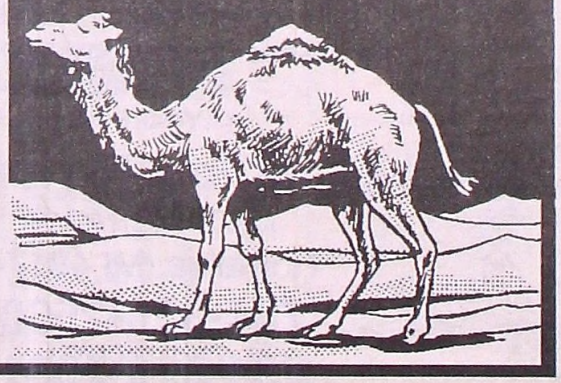
- Jimmy Carter, 39th President of the U.S.
- Noah Webster, the American educator who compiled *Webster's Dictionary*.
- Alfred Nobel, the Swedish chemist who founded the Nobel Prize and also invented dynamite.
- Sarah Josepha Hale, the American editor who wrote *Mary Had a Little Lamb*.
- Johnny Carson, former host of *The Tonight Show*.
- Juliette Low, the woman who founded the Girl Scouts of America.
- Susan Sarandon, American movie star.
- Penny Marshall, multi-talented TV actress and movie director.
- Groucho Marx, one of the zany Marx brothers.
- Bruce Springsteen, popular rock musician.

## DID YOU KNOW?

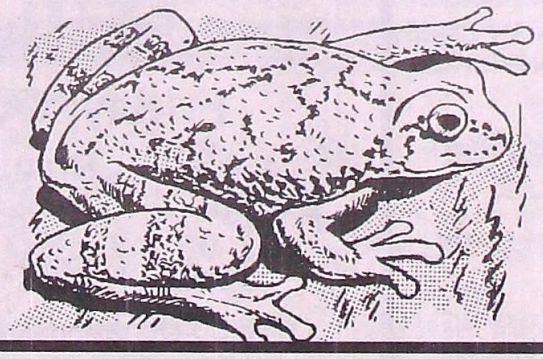
IN NORTH AMERICA THERE ARE STILL TWO COLONIES LEFT. THEY ARE THE ISLANDS OF ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON, WHICH ARE JUST OFF THE EAST COAST OF CANADA. THEY BELONG TO FRANCE.



IT IS WELL-KNOWN THAT THE FAT IN A CAMEL'S HUMP ENABLES IT TO GO FOR A LONG TIME WITHOUT WATER. BUT, DID YOU KNOW THAT THE CAMEL HAS DOUBLE EYELIDS? THIS HELPS TO KEEP THE SAND OUT OF ITS EYES DURING SANDSTORMS.



THE TREE FROG IS BRIGHT GREEN WHEN SITTING AMONGST THE LEAVES OF A TREE. BUT WHEN IT JUMPS ONTO A TREE TRUNK, WITHIN MINUTES ITS SKIN CHANGES TO A GREYISH COLOR SO IT CAN'T BE SEEN EASILY AGAINST THE BARK OF THE TREE.



# Community Calendar

- ***The Rocky Horror Picture Show*** – The Friends of the Trenton Village Theatre invite the public to attend their upcoming presentations of Richard O'Brien's *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Live performances are scheduled for 8 p.m. on October 22, 23, 29, and 30 at the Trenton Village Theatre (2447 Jefferson). A midnight showing is also scheduled for October 30. Tickets are $12 each. All seats are assigned; seating can be reserved by calling 734-362-8153. Parental advisory: Contains adult subject matter. All proceeds go toward the Trenton Village Theatre building fund. This is a perfect way to celebrate the Halloween holiday!
- **Romulus Flyers To Host Annual Membership Meeting** – The annual membership meeting for the Romulus Athletic Club's Flyers will be held at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, October 27, at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins in the downtown area). All card-carrying members are encouraged to attend.
- **St. Aloysius Ushers Club Hosts Annual Feather Party** – The St. Aloysius Ushers Club invites bingo fans to bring their cushions, daubers, trinkets, and quarters down to Romulus Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga Road) at 7 p.m. on Monday, November 1, to take part in the group's annual Feather Party. Highlights of the event will include a raffle to win a turkey dinner for eight, and bingo games to win a turkey, a chicken, and a can of cranberries. Refreshments will be available.
- **Writers Group Meets** – The Writers Connection – a group designed to bring writers and aspiring writers together – meets at the Romulus Public Library (11121 Wayne Road, south of Goddard) from 6 to 8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month (next meeting: November 3). Membership is free. For more information about the group, which has been meeting for more than a year, call Maryjo at the library: 734-942-7589.
- **St. Paul's To Host Sauerkraut Supper/Bake Sale/Bazaar** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church – located at the corner of Craig and Ellis streets in New Boston – is having its annual Sauerkraut Supper/Bake Sale/Bazaar on Thursday, November 4, at the church. Dinner will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. in the basement. The event is sponsored by the Ladies' Aid, Men's Club, and Youth Group.
- **Fish Dinners at St. Paul's** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at the corner of Ellis and Craig streets in New Boston, will be hosting fish dinners from 5 to 7 p.m. on the second Friday of each month. (Next date: November 12.) Everyone is welcome!
- **Flyers "Greektown Casino" Fund-raiser** – The Romulus Athletic Club is sponsoring a fund-raiser to benefit the Romulus Flyers, a nonprofit organization that sponsors football and cheerleading for children ages 8 to 13. Tickets ($25 each) include a bus ride to and from Greektown Casino, a $10 coin voucher, and (if three or more buses are filled) a $5 food voucher. The trip is set for Saturday, December 4, from 5 to 11 p.m. For tickets, please call Lisa Nastal at 734-722-1857 or Dan Behnke at 941-6147.
- **Church of God Announces Service Times** – Romulus Church of God (located at 8770 South Wayne Road) invites the public to attend their weekly services (Sundays at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesdays at 7 p.m.) as well as their children's programs: Kids for Christ (Sundays at 10:30 a.m.) and Kids Praise (Saturdays from 12 to 2 p.m.). Call 734-729-7243 for info.
- **New Life Baptist Church Welcomes You!** – New Life Baptist Church invites the public to attend weekly worship services on Sundays at 10 a.m. at Wayne County Community College (located at 9555 Haggerty Road, Belleville). For more information, call 734-489-0054 or send an e-mail to smmajcgi2002.
- **Register for GED Test** – Romulus/Van Buren Adult Education is inviting anyone interested in taking the GED test to register now. The eight-hour, high-school-level exam will be offered at the Adult Education office (located on Hannan Road) on five different testing dates in October, November, and December. Fee for the test is $100. To sign up, stop in at the Adult Ed office any weekday between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., or at Romulus High School (9650 Wayne Road, north of I-94) any Tuesday or Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, call 734-532-1953.

*To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174–0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907*

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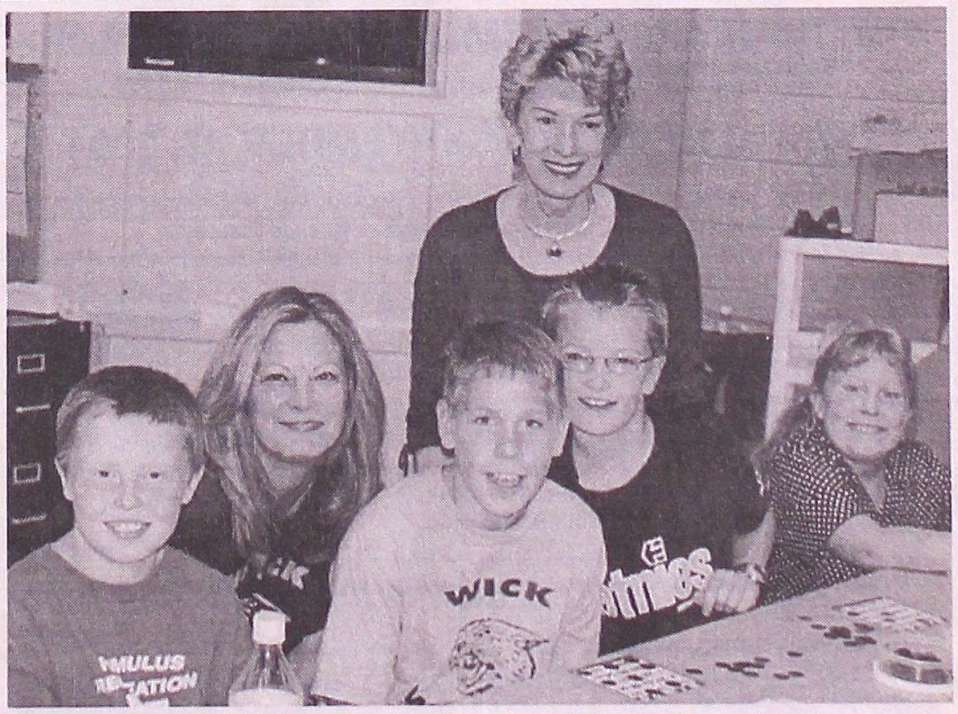
# What's Up at Wick

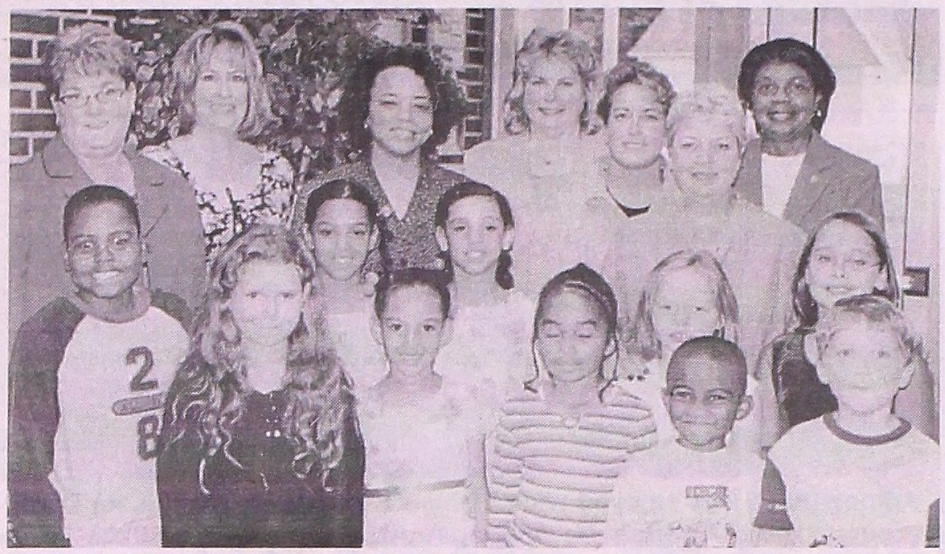
**Among those who enjoyed Wick Elementary's recent "Donuts for Dads" program were: (from left) David Benson and his grandsons, Mikos Jones and Kenneth Fultz; principal Debbie Juriga; co-parent coordinator Sandy Dotson; Releford Gamble and his children, Charelle, Mercedes, and Kolby; David Eddings and his children, Samantha and Levi; Gerod and co-parent coordinator Danielle Funderburg, and their children, Rachel and Romney; Howard Mallard and his son, Malik; Kirk Dawson and his daughter, Ciara; and family friend Miguel Mickey with London Brown.**

**Caitlin Dorsey (left) was among the many students enthralled by Ben Spitzer (aka "Mr. Magic") at the school's recent Investigative Math Show.**



**Learning specialist Marge Olson (back) said Family Bingo Night was a big hit with all who attended, including (from left) Dylan Dotson, Trish Wands, Bryan Moore, Eric Wands, and Samantha Moore.**

# Merriman Selects Peer Mediators



**Social worker Rene Kish and behavioral specialist Tina Perkins (back, left and right) led the following Merriman Elementary students through their successful completion of the school's Peer Mediation program: (from left) front – Nashad Hill, Deonta Delaney, Veonica Trammell, and Seth Urban; middle – Nicole Coffey, Ishava Vanover, Rion Bell, Nan Sheikh, and Danielle Doyle; back – Jacob Segur, Maurice Murphy, Sierra Toliver, Erik Radford, and Nathan Wilkerson.**

One of the most highly sought student activity positions at Merriman Elementary is that of Peer Mediator, according to principal Shellie Moore. Each year, she said, a number of students vie for the honor of serving in this prestigious group.

Moore is especially pleased with the school's recent program initiates.

"Our staff coordinators – social worker Rene Kish and behavioral specialist Tina Perkins – have done an excellent job of preparing our student mediators for their important responsibilities," she stated. "We are again fortunate to have an outstanding group of students willing to help their peers resolve individual differences."

Behavioral specialist Perkins also had high praise for the trainees.

"The students have made excellent progress, and have learned how to mediate disputes by simulating a wide variety of representative situations," she said. "Our overall student discipline referrals have significantly declined since the introduction of the Peer Mediation program several years ago."

Social worker Kish noted, "The Peer Mediation program is also a big part of Merriman's no-bullying efforts. We try very hard to get the students to respect each other, and our mediators provide outstanding leadership in this effort."

Principal Moore congratulated all her student mediators on their selection to the team, and commended them on their willingness to work with other students to help make Merriman a better school. ❑

## ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

**36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174**

### PUBLIC HEARING, SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

The Public Hearing of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, September 27, 2004, was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by President Cheryle Buckley.

Roll call showed members Buckley, April Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Betty Lenossi, Niema White, and Thomas Kuderik present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Buckley.

**PUBLIC HEARING – REGULAR ELECTION:**

A public hearing was held in accordance with State Law for the scheduling of Board Elections. Superintendent Joel R. Carr recommended that regular elections of the Board of Education be scheduled on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May.

There were no questions from the audience.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**9/04/10** Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by White to adjourn. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Roscoe, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

## ROMULUS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

**36540 Grant Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174**

### REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 27, 2004

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, September 27, 2004, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Cheryle Buckley.

Roll call showed members Buckley, April Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Betty Lenossi, Niema White, and Thomas Kuderik present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations; Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources; and Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Buckley.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**9/04/11** Moved by White supported by Roscoe to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**9/04/12** Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Frayer that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of September 13, 2004, as revised. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

***Personnel Actions***

Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following Personnel Actions for Board approval.

EMPLOYMENT – FYI: Betty Cantrell, Transportation Supervisor, District Administrative Offices, effective September 22, 2004.

RESIGNATION – FYI: Jessica Wilhide, Child Care Giver/Latchkey, Burton Center, effective September 16, 2004.

***Ratification of Master Agreement of Wayne County MEA/NEA Contract***

**9/04/13** Moved by Roscoe supported by Lenossi that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Superintendent and approve the ratification of a contract extension with Wayne County MEA/NEA for the years 2004 through 2006. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

***Bills for Payment***

**9/04/14** Moved by White supported by Frayer to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. William Routhier, Director of Business and Operations. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

***Social Workers and Jeffery Royal – Focus***

Ms. Jeffery Royal, Director of Special Education, and Social Workers Sue Mitchell, Pat Flodin, Sandy McDonald, Sally Berger, Selassica O'Flynn, and Renee Kish appeared before the Board of Education with an overview of planned district-wide social-work activities and goals for the 2004–2005 school year.

***Regular Election Resolution***

**9/04/15** Moved by Mientkiewicz supported by Frayer that the Board of Education adopt the attached Regular Election Resolution scheduling its regular election for the office of school board member(s) on the May regular election date in both even and odd years, which is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

***Communications and Expressions from the Public***

Mrs. Danielle Funderburg appeared before the Board of Education relative to overcrowding of buses. The Administration informed her that the Transportation Supervisor has been at the building, observing the situation, and any problems will be addressed.

***Items of Interest from the Superintendent***

Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent, shared the following Items of Interest with members of the Board of Education: 1) Communication from LeRoy Burcroff; 2) Wick Elementary Annual Report; 3) National Affiliate Update; and 4) Preliminary Counts.

**QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:**

Mrs. Niema White reminded Board members of Homecoming on October 1.

Mrs. Cheryle Buckley gave a summary of the Governor's Summit attended by Board members in Lansing, and Mr. Kenneth Mientkiewicz echoed the positive statements made by Mrs. Buckley.

Mrs. Celeste Roscoe spoke about the fantastic Health Run/Walk at the Pumpkin Festival. Mrs. Roscoe further read the positive letter written by LeRoy Burcroff to the Board of Education concerning the Middle School football team; thanked the athletes for their presentation during halftime at their game; and thanked Mr. Henry James and his band for their outstanding job at the Pumpkin Festival's Parade of Lights.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

**9/04/16** Moved by White supported by Frayer to convene into Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations. Roll call vote – Ayes: Kuderik, Lenossi, White, Mientkiewicz, Buckley, Frayer, and Roscoe. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened into Executive Session at 7:17 p.m.

**9/04/17** Moved by White supported by Frayer to convene into Regular Session. Roll call vote – Ayes: Kuderik, Lenossi, White, Mientkiewicz, Buckley, Frayer, and Roscoe. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Board convened into Regular Session at 7:50 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**9/04/18** Moved by Frayer supported by Kuderik to adjourn. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Celeste Roscoe, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

# Reversed Headline

*Our thanks to Herbert Buckley, director, City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, and Kristin Irwin, recreation coordinator, for supplying information for the "Recreation News" column. Unless otherwise noted, registration for the following programs should be made at the Romulus Recreation Center (36515 Bibbins) during its regular hours (weekdays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.). For more information, stop in at the Center or call 734-942-6852.*

## Safety/Self-defense

Ages 3 through adult will gain confidence, self-discipline, and coordination while learning about fire safety, stranger danger, and anti-bullying techniques through participation in Session II of this safety awareness/self-defense class, which will run from October 26 through November 30. Classes will meet at the Recreation Center from 5:30 to 6 p.m. each Tuesday.

Cost per session is $25 for one person, $45 for two immediate family members, or $65 for three immediate family members. (If the class is taken in conjunction with the Tang Soo Do class below, the cost is $10 per participant.) Register by Monday, October 25.

## Tang Soo Do

Tang Soo Do – an original form of Tae Kwon Do – is a traditional (as opposed to Olympics-style) martial arts discipline. Participants (ages 3 through adult) taking part in Session II (which will run from October 26 through November 30) will learn self-defense techniques, grappling techniques, and hand-to-hand combat. Classes will meet at the Recreation Center from 6 to 7 p.m. each Tuesday.

Cost per session is $30 for one person, $50 for two immediate family members, or $70 for three immediate family members. (If the class is taken in conjunction with the safety awareness class above, the cost is $10 per participant.) Register by Monday, October 25.

## Cheerleading

Students in prekindergarten and elementary grades can learn the fundamentals of cheerleading – with a focus on basic movements and stunts as well as voice drills and "spirit" – in Session II of the Recreation Department's cheerleading class, set for October 26 through November 30. Classes will meet at the Rec Center each Tuesday and Friday according to the following schedule:

- grades prekindergarten to 3: 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.
- grades 4 to 6: 7 to 8 p.m.

Cost per session is $40. Register by Monday, October 25.

## Youth Gymnastics

Session II of the Tumblebunnies gymnastics program – open to boys and girls ages 3 and up – will run from November 8 through December 20. Classes will meet at the Recreation Department each Monday according to the following schedule:

- ages 3 to 4: 6 to 6:45 p.m.
- ages 5 to 7: 6:45 to 7:30 p.m.
- ages 8 and up: 7:30 to 8:15 p.m.

Cost is $60 per session. Register by Friday, November 5.

## Peewee Basketball

Boys and girls in grades kindergarten through two are invited to sign up for the peewee basketball program, which will be held at Cory Elementary from November 1 through December 20. Practices (Mondays through Thursdays) will be held twice weekly during the first week of the program, and once weekly thereafter. Games will be played on Fridays.

Cost for the program is $45 for one person, $85 for two immediate family members, or $125 for three immediate family members. Cost includes a reversible jersey for each participant. Early registration is strongly urged, since only the first 60 applicants will be accepted. The deadline for registration is Tuesday, October 26.

## Floor Hockey

Open to students in grades three through six, the after-school floor hockey program will be offered at Barth, Cory, Halecreek, and Romulus elementaries until 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from November 16 through December 16. *No transportation will be provided.*

A cost of $20 per child includes a program T-shirt; children with shirts from last year pay just $10. Register by Friday, November 12.

## Adult Open Basketball

The adult open basketball program – limited to Romulus residents (proper ID required) – meets at Romulus Middle School Tuesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost is $2 per night. No registration needed.

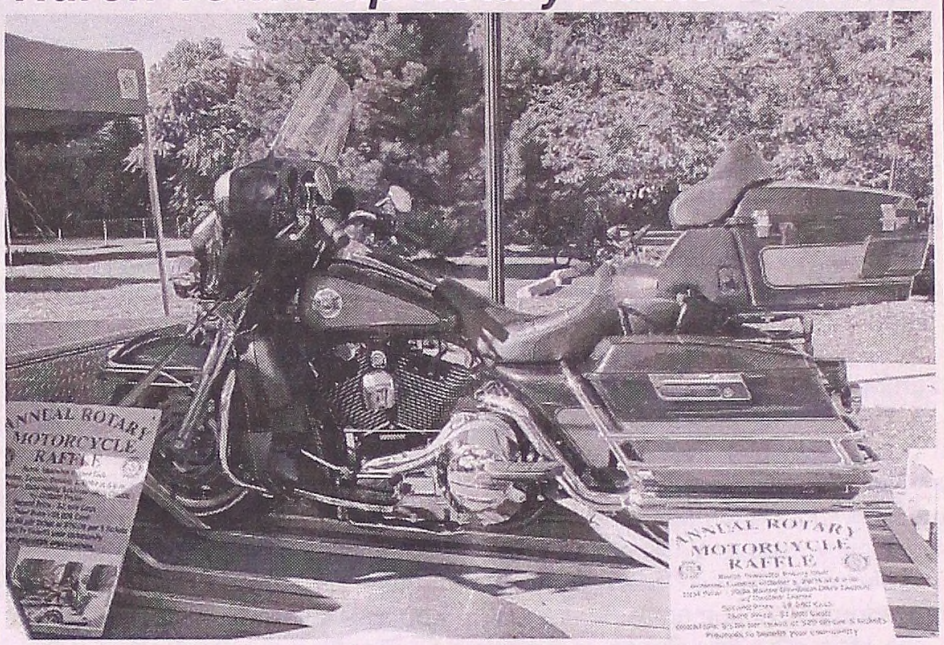
## Quilting

A free drop-in quilting class meets at the Recreation Center every Thursday at 6 p.m. Quilters of all experience levels are welcome. ❑

## Ceramics For Seniors

The ceramics class for senior citizens will meet at the Recreation Center from 1 to 3:30 p.m. each Monday through June 27. Cost for the drop-in class is just $1 per week for Romulus residents and $1.50 for nonresidents. ❑

## Huron Township Rotary Raffle Winners




**This 2004 Harley Davidson Ultra Classic Motorcycle and Trailer – seen here on display at the Romulus Pumpkin Festival – was awarded as first prize in the Huron Township Rotary Club's annual raffle drawing, held earlier this month. The lucky winner was Al Waller of Cheboygan (ticket #14789). Second prize ($2,000) and third prize ($1,000) were won by M. Chessrown of Grosse Ile (ticket #10848) and Edward Feelay of Dearborn (ticket #18125), respectively.**

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*Donations are tax deductible.*

*Donors of $500 or more will be recognized on a memorial plaque.*

*Donors of $25 or more will be recognized in a "book of friends."*

# Sassy Seniors

*By Mary E. Clark*

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at Romulus Senior Center, located at 36515 Bibbins, call 734-955-4120.)

**Senior Music Series**

The freshly reformatted Matinée Musicale daytime concert series for senior citizens will continue on November 17 with a performance by Maestro Arie Lipsky, violinist Yehonatan Berick, and pianist Katherine Collier. They will be performing Schumann's *Fantasy for Cello*, Mozart's *Violin Sonata in A*, and Mendelssohn's *C-minor Piano Trio.*

Matinée Musicale concerts begin at 1:30 p.m. with a sit-down dessert, where patrons and musicians can meet. At 2 p.m., concert-goers will enjoy a one-hour performance while seated around tables throughout the performance hall.

The Matinée Musicale Series is a recital series of classical music presented by Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra music director Arie Lipsky and the A²SO's brass, string, and woodwind ensembles. The A²SO and the JCC of Washtenaw County join together to provide this opportunity for area senior citizens to enjoy top-quality professional music at an affordable price, midday time, and convenient location.

The JCC is located at 2935 Birch Hollow Drive in Ann Arbor. Single tickets are available at the door for $7.

For additional information, contact Lori Zupan at 734-994-4801.

**Halloween Luncheon**

Mark your calendars for Friday, October 29, when the Romulus Senior Center's monthly luncheon will feature a Halloween theme! The devilishly delicious menu will feature ghoulish meat balls, ghostly mashed potatoes and gravy, zombie green beans, and a witches' brew beverage.

Highlights of the event will include a costume contest, with winners chosen in two categories: "Favorite Person" and "Most Colorful." All costume-clad customers will receive a $1 refund on the $4.50 cost of the meal.

To reserve your seat, sign up at the Center.

**Red Hat Society**

The Romulus Senior Center is now an official member of Red Hat Society Chapter #40741. For more information, or to join, call the Center or e-mail romulusredhatsociety@yahoo.com.

**Movie Day**

The Romulus Senior Center will be showing *Gone with the Wind* (starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh) on Friday, October 22, at 11:30 a.m. Admission is free.

Light refreshments will be served.

**Senior-citizen Clubs**

Local senior citizens looking to make new friends are invited to join one or both of the clubs that meet at the Romulus Senior Center on a regular basis.

Club #1, which gets together each Tuesday at 11 a.m., holds potlucks, "does lunch" at area restaurants, hosts parties, plays bingo and other games, and schedules seasonal outings.

The Romulus Senior Social Club, a relatively new group that's continuing to grow, meets at 2 p.m. on the second Friday of each month. Yearly dues of $5 help cover costs related to special trips, parties, and other events.

For more information about either of these groups, call the Romulus Senior Center.

**Regular Programs**

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens.

They include:

- ceramics (Mondays, 12:30 p.m.),
- Club One (Tuesdays, 11 a.m.),
- bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- "fun night" (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- pinochle (Thursdays, 12:30 p.m.),
- "game day" (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.), and
- quilting (Thursdays, 7 p.m.).

Call the Center for more information.

**Walk for Your Health**

Ride the Senior Center's van to Wayne County Community College's Western Campus each Monday and Wednesday at 2 p.m. for an hour of safe indoor walking at your own pace. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

The Senior Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

**Chair Yoga**

The Senior Center's new Chair Yoga program meets each Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. Cost is $5 per session.

Again, the Senior Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

For more information, please call Belinda at 734-942-3029. ❑

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If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

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Baby's Name _____
Birthdate _____ Time _____
Weight _____ Length _____
Birthplace _____
Parents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Siblings _____
_____
_____
Maternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Paternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):
_____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

**ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM**

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

**THE ROMULUS NEWS**
P.O. Box 74038
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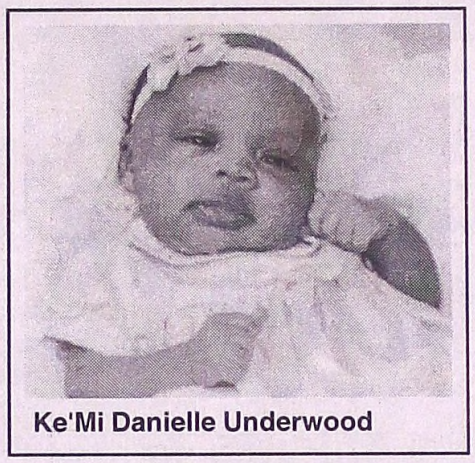
City _____ State _____
Groom's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Bride's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Bridesmaids _____
Groomsmen _____
Date of Engagement _____
Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions):
_____

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

# The Stork Arrived!

## Ke'Mi Danielle Underwood


**Ke'Mi Danielle Underwood**

Michael and Kellie Underwood of Taylor, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Ke'Mi Danielle Underwood.

Ke'Mi was born in Henry Ford Hospital (Detroit, MI) at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, July 21, 2004, weighing 6 lbs., 9 oz., and measuring 19" in length.

Giving the new arrival a warm welcome into the family were her paternal grandparents, Harold and Jacqueline Peagler, and her maternal grandparents, Clarence and Mitzi Massey (all of Romulus, MI). ❑

# Obituaries

## Shelby "Jean" Hartman

Shelby "Jean" Hartman of Belleville, Michigan, passed away on Friday, October 15, 2004, at the age of 65.

Jean was born in Kingsport, Tennessee, on Sunday, April 2, 1939. She enjoyed crossword puzzles and gardening, especially flowers.

Surviving Jean are 3 children, Karen Hartman (Grass Lake, MI), Lyndon Hartman (Belleville), and Cathy (Michael) Swain (Romulus, MI); a son-in-law, Jerry Moore (Belleville); a brother, Blaine (Loretta) Gregg (KY); 4 sisters, Cora (Howard) Rowland (Taylor, MI), Clydie Sturgill (SC), Wanda Hill (Allen Park, MI), and Elizabeth (Bill) Hashberger (TN); 8 grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Among those who predeceased her were her parents, James Edward and Mary Gladys (Marshall) Gregg; her husband, Charles Wayne Hartman, who passed away in 1984; a sister, Betty Gregg; and a brother, Ernest Gregg.

A funeral service was held on Monday, October 18, at David C. Brown Funeral Home (Belleville), with Pastor John H. Cox officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Memorial contributions to Arbor Hospice and Home Care would be greatly appreciated by the Hartman family.

## Sandra C. Steinhardt

Sandra C. Steinhardt of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Tuesday, October 5, 2004, at the age of 36.

Sandra was born in Wyandotte, Michigan, on Monday, May 27, 1968. She did volunteer work with St. Aloysius Catholic Church (Romulus) and Habitat for Humanity, loved animals, and enjoyed shopping.

Surviving Sandra are her husband, Timothy E. Steinhardt; a son, Timothy E. Steinhardt, Jr.; her parents, Thomas Rose (Edgewater, FL) and Kristine (Jim) O'Neil (Taylor, MI); a brother, Clay T. Rose (Brownstown, MI); 3 stepsisters, Tami (James) Crawford (SC), Lisa (Doug) Marley (NC), and Kristi Foster (Jackson, MI); and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service was held on Saturday, October 9, at St. Stephen Catholic Church (New Boston, MI), with Father Alexander Wytrwal officiating. Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park (Flat Rock).

Arrangements were made by Crane Funeral Home (Romulus). ❑

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